Gurudakshina tax on fresh graduates

†3816. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering a UGC proposal to impose Gurudakshina tax on those fresh graduates who get their maiden job in private or public sector after completing the education;

(b) if so, the purpose and objectives of this proposal;

(c) the circumstances under which such proposal has been mooted;

(d) whether Government agree with this proposal and contemplating to give consent to it;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(0 if not, who is responsible for such proposal of UGC ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the UGC has not forwarded any such proposal for the consideration of the Government.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

Vacant post of Director/Chairman in NBT

3817. SHRI KARTAR SINGH DUGGAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) for how long National Book Trust, has been without a regular Director and Chairman; and

(b) how such contingencies could not be visualised and arrangements made to fill these posts in time so that the services don't suffer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) and (b) The tenure of the former Chairman, Dr. Sitakant Mahapatra ended on 6th December, 2002. The new Chairman has assumed the office of the Chairman, NBT on 21st March, 2003.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The former regular Director repatriated to his parent office on 31 st March, 2002. Action to fill up the vacancy of Director was initiated as early as in March, 2002 and the post was advertised on 9th March, 2002. The selection of the Director has been completed for approval of the competent authority.

In the meantime, as a stop-gap arrangement. Dr. (Smt.) Varsha Das, Chief Editor and Joint Director, NBT was given additional charge of the post of Director, which she held from 1st April, 2002 to 6th November, 2002. From 7-11-2002, Director (BP & Copyright), Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Secondary and Higher Education, was given additional charge of the post of Director, NBT which he still holds till the regular Director joins.

Selection for the post of Director is a process involving various stages like advertisements to be published, applications to be shortlisted and interviews to be conducted. The previous Director had 5 years' tenure up to March, 2003. Since he was repatriated before time, the selection for the new Director could not be initiated before.

Opening of Kendriya Vidyalayas without grants

3818. SHRI GA YA SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have since refused to make funds available to the Ministry under Plan-Budget 2003-04 for opening new Kendriya Vidyalayas;

(b) if so, how about 50 Kendriya Vidyalayas have been opened without the grants ;

(c) whether new posts of teachers have been sanctioned therefor; and

(d) if so, category-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) No, Sir. Kendriya Vidyalayas are opened from the non-Plan budget provided by the Government.

(b) Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has informed that they will be able to open the new schools without creating any financial liability on non-Plan side for Government and will run these schools by redeploying the surplus staff.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Details are enclosed as Statement.